



Provider Supports Subcommittee

Feedback Loop

February 8, 2023

Recommendations, Input and Decisions Made, Status Updates

Follow Up Items from Previous Meetings

DCYF Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ) Update

In response to questions from Members regarding recent changes in staffing within the Office of Racial Equity and Social Justice (ORESJ), please see an update from DCYF Chief of Staff Frank Ordway below:

Dear Provider Supports Members,

Thank you for sharing your interest and questions regarding the recent transitions in staffing within ORESJ. I am happy to share some updates on the current status of this work and outline our next steps for ORESJ and DCYF as a whole.

I want to start by acknowledging the strong work of the initial ORESJ team. Their contributions have been incredibly valuable to the agency and highlight how critical this work is. We recognize that a fully staffed and supported ORESJ is necessary in order for this work to continue, and that DCYF is committed to not only continuing this work, but expanding it throughout the Agency. This has been a top priority for DCYF's Leadership Table, and while this is ongoing, we have some updates to share.

- The ORESJ team is growing. We recently hired three Administrators and a Program Specialist, with plans to expand the team to six, and additional future investments for increased FTEs in the office. DCYF will have the largest office of its kind in the State, all self-funded.
- ORESJ will be represented at the Leadership Table. DCYF will be the first Cabinet Agency to do so. The exact format of this is in development.

In addition to supporting a successful transition for ORESJ, The Leadership Table is also reviewing DCYF's internal practices to develop strategies to promote racial equity and eliminate disparities throughout the Agency. With these goals in mind, DCYF leadership is committed to addressing the following during the first quarter:

- Finalizing the structure of the ORESJ team, including the form of its representation at the Leadership Table and position in the organization chart.
- Implementing RESJ Training requirements for our 5,000 employees.
- Outcome measures and a reporting frequency for the RESJ page in our strategic plan.
- Establishing consistent agency response to employee behavior that is inconsistent with our values and standards.

I look forward to continued partnership and collaboration as we work towards our shared goal of eliminating racial disproportionalities and advancing racial equity throughout DCYF and improving outcomes for the children and families of Washington State.

Sincerely,

Frank Ordway



Child Care Collaborative Task Force

The full Child Care Collaborative Task Force cost of quality care report is now finalized and published. The report [can be found here](#). More information, dashboards and additional resources can be found on the Department of Commerce website [here](#).

Child Care Business Feasibility Calculator

We've made progress on the calculator and are now developing it as a web-based application to be released by the end of June, 2023 in English and Spanish on the www.washingtonstem.org website. We are working with partners to consider whether and how to incorporate calculations for Nature Based, Summer schedule, and non-traditional hours in the calculator. Other updates include a line for collections rate and WCCC subsidy as a percent of students.

We do not have a version of the calculator ready to share publicly right now, but if people would like to schedule time with us to review it over Zoom, please feel free to reach out to Soleil Boyd at soleil@washingtonstem.org